

middlememory.com

How I used embedded metadata, Picasa and WordPress to build my family archive



Sarah Severson

@sarah0s

McGill University Library



Collection

620 postcards

645 photographs

74 cards & documents

300 slides

4 family histories

Framework

Archive of feelings

Micro-histories

Small data

Collaborative & community repositories

Activist & radical archiving practices



Halsfjord
— just
west of
Oslo.

①
-our flat (apartment)
and car marked
with "X"

"The Fosseway"
Bristol
March 1974

Goals

1. Capture basic information
2. Capture the stories that were emerging
3. Create or find stories
4. Share and preserve it all

Now what





Play



A

A B

A A



People



In this photo:



Patty Litwin



Lester Severson



David Severson

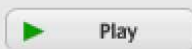


Gladys (Ness) Severson

Severson family photo. David, Gladys, Patty and Lester. 1950s



Add a person manually



Play



A

A B

A A



Picasa: Caption



People



In this photo:



Patty Litwin



Lester Severson



David Severson

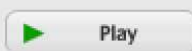


Gladys (Ness) Severson

Severson family photo. David, Gladys, Patty and Lester. 1950s



Add a person manually



Play



A

A B

A A

Picasa: People



People



In this photo:



Patty Litwin



Lester Severson



David Severson



Gladys (Ness) Severson

Severson family photo. David, Gladys, Patty and Lester. 1950s



Add a person manually



Bisa (Ness) Scott



3 suggestions



Confirm all

Remove

Press checkmark to confirm match, press "x" to ignore.



Type: photo-family portrait



Type: photo-family portrait



Type: photo-family portrait



Type: photo-family portrait



Type: photo-family portrait



Type: photo-family portrait



1925, Type: photo-family



Same Same

Play



A

A B

A A



Picasa: Places



Severson family photo. David, Gladys, Patty and Lester. 1950s

Places

Location of photo

Map

Camrose

Google - Map Data 200 m Terms of Use

Search for an address:



Play



A

A B

A A



Picasa: Tags



Severson family photo. David, Gladys, Patty and Lester. 1950s



Tags



Type in a tag to add:



Tags in 10F3D7A1.jpg:

Type: photo-family portrait

1950s

Quick Tags:

20 Brantford Cres. NW -...

To: Thea (Fletcher) Obe...

1950s

1940s

Type: photo

Type: photo-family port...

From: Anne Severson

Type: photo-...

?

Picasa	IPTC core	IIM property	XMP	EXIF
Caption	Description	2#120 caption-or-abstract	dc.description	
Tags	Keywords	2#025 keywords	dc.subject	
People			xmp.region name	
Places				exif.GPSLatitude + exif.GPSLongitude

Picasa	IPTC core	XMP	EXIF	Flickr	Facebook Album upload
Description					
Caption	2#120 caption-or-abstract	dc.description		Description	Description
Tags	2#025 keywords	dc.subject		Tags	
People		xmp.region name			
Places			exif.GPSLatitude + exif.GPSLongitude	GPS	

Picasa	IPTC core	XMP	EXIF	WordPress Default	WordPress Media Library Assistant
Description					
Caption	2#120 caption- or-abstract	dc.description		Description	Title + description
Tags	2#025 keywords	dc.subject			Att. Categories
People		xmp.region name			Att. Tags
Places			exif.GPSLatitude + exif.GPSLongitude		GPS

WordPress Plugin: Media Library Assistant

Middle Memory

[FAMILY ARCHIVE](#) [MAP](#) [METADATA](#) [ABOUT](#)

[People](#)
[Places](#)
[Stories](#)

RECENTLY ADDED

[1972 trip through Europe](#)
[Anne \(Thornton\) Severson](#)
[The Farm](#)
[Sarah's birthdays](#)
[Anne and David get married](#)
[The 1960s](#)
[Calgary Home](#)
[Alette Johanna Ness](#)
[Dear Anne, Love Thea](#)
[Inga Gurine \(Foshaug\) Ness](#)
[Gladys Viola \(Ness\) Severson](#)



David in his lab during his PhD at UBC – 1972 or 1973

Attachment Tags (people):

- [David Severson](#)

Attachment Categories:

- [1971](#)
- [1972](#)
- [Type: photo](#)

🔍 1600 × 1191



[People](#)[Places](#)[Stories](#)

RECENTLY ADDED

[The 1940s](#)[The 1970s](#)[1972 trip through Europe](#)[Anne \(Thornton\) Severson](#)[The Farm](#)[Sarah's birthdays](#)[Anne and David get married](#)[The 1960s](#)[Calgary Home](#)[Alette Johanna Ness](#)[Dear Anne, Love Thea](#)[Inga Gurine \(Foshaug\) Ness](#)[Gladys Viola \(Ness\) Severson](#)

ATTACHMENT CATEGORY ARCHIVE

TYPE: PHOTO



Anne holding her camera – 1970s.

[DETAILS](#) [COMMENT](#)



Amy crying on the farm surrounded by her cousins – 1976ish

[DETAILS](#) [COMMENT](#)



Sarah's 4th birthday at the farm – March 1984

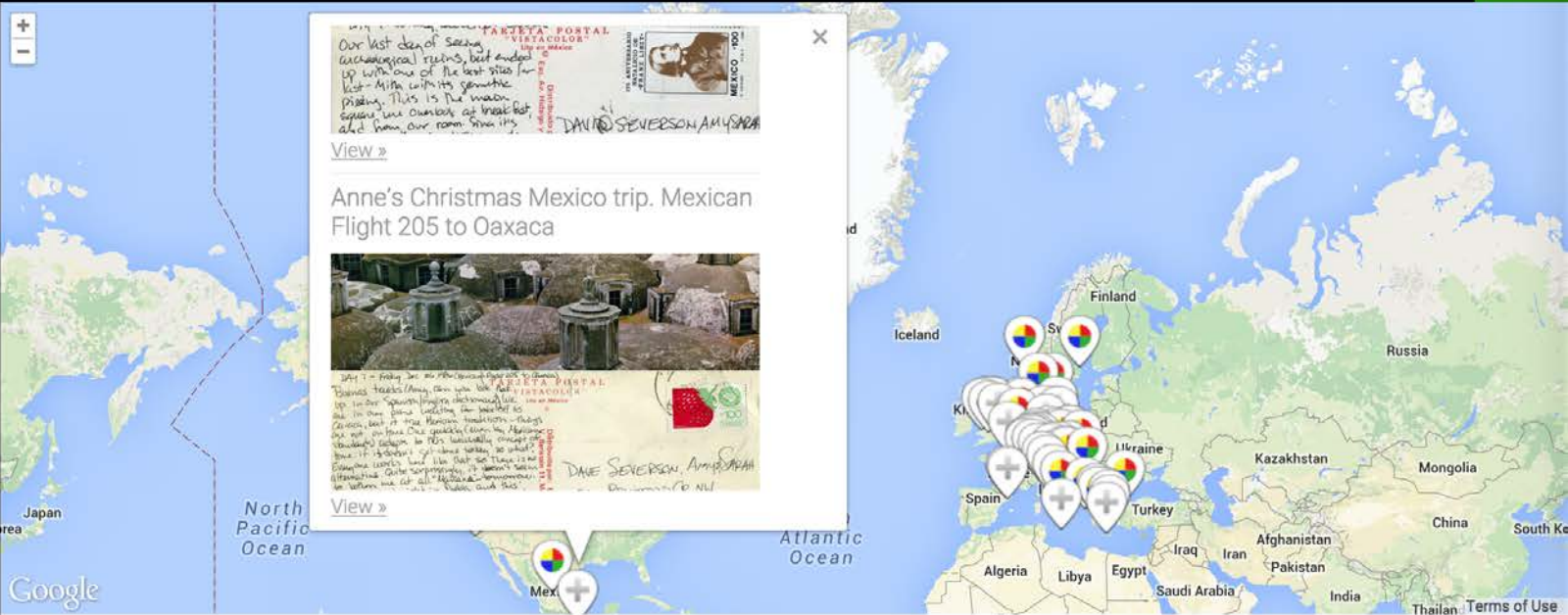
Wordpress Plug in: Geo Mashup

Middle Memory

- People
- Places
- Stories

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- Inga Gurine (Foshaug) Ness
- Gladys Viola (Ness) Severson



MAP

WordPress Plugin: Media Library Assistant [mla_gallery] shortcode

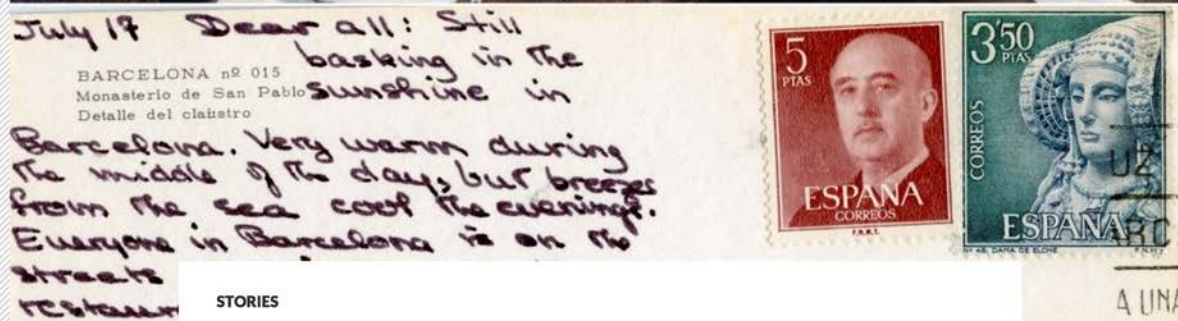
Middle Memory

People
Places
Stories

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FAMILY ARCHIVE MAP METADATA ABOUT



STORIES

1972 TRIP THROUGH EUROPE

🕒 APRIL 21, 2015 👤 SARAH05 💬 COMMENT ✎ EDIT

Postcards written back home to the Farm on [Anne](#) and David's trip to Europe from April to August in 1972. Anne would have booked the trip to leave just after David's thesis defence from the University of British They ended their trip in England for the start of David's Post Doc at the University of Bristol.



RECENTLY ADDED

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PEOPLE, STORIES

ANNE (THORNTON) SEVERSON

📅 APRIL 21, 2015 🧑 SARAH05 💬 COMMENT ✎ EDIT

Timeline

May 1, 1946	Born in Rowley Regis, England
August 5th, 1946	First train ride from Birmingham to Paddington.
August 6th-11th, 1946	Queen Mary boat from South Hampton, England to Halifax, Canada.
August 11th-16th, 1946	Train from Halifax to Calgary.
October 11, 1946	Moved to new home in Edmonton.
September 2, 1967	Anne marries David Severson
May 2, 1994	Opening of Square One: Quilts in a woman's life at the Little Gallery (University of Calgary)

Photographs of Anne



Postcards and cards Anne sent or received



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Export in XML

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What's next



Questions?

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